

23. (New) A method for improving nerve conduction velocity or nerve blood flow in a warm blooded animal suffering diabetic neuropathy comprising administering to said animal a treatment-effective amount of the statin drug (E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl] (3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. (New) The method as claimed in claim 22 or 23 wherein the statin drug is administered as a pharmaceutical combination additionally comprising at least one other drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein the at least one other drug used for treating diabetes or the complications of diabetes is selected from insulin, troglitazone, rosiglitazone, pioglitazone, MCC-555, (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid and 3-{4-[2-(4-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)phenyl]ethoxy}phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid, glimepiride, glibenclamide, gliclazide, glipizide, gliquidone and tolazamide, metformin, acarbose and repaglinide.

26. (New) The method as claimed in claim 23 wherein the statin drug is administered as a pharmaceutical combination additionally comprising a second drug which is also useful in improving nerve conduction velocity in a patient suffering diabetic neuropathy.

27. (New) The method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the second drug is selected from an aldose reductase inhibitor, an ACE inhibitor and an AII antagonist.

28. (New) The method as claimed in claim 27 wherein the second drug is selected from epalrestat, tolrestat, ponolrestat, zopolrestat, AD-5467, SNK-860, ADN-138, AS-3201, zenarestat, sorbinil, methosorbinil, imirestat and minalrestat (WAY-121509), benazepril, benazeprilat, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, imidopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, perindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat,

trandolapril, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, losartan, irbesartan, valsartan and candesartan.

29. (New) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein the second drug is selected from an aldose reductase inhibitor, an ACE inhibitor and an AII antagonist.

30. (New) The method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the second drug is selected from epalrestat, tolrestat, ponolrestat, zopolrestat, AD-5467, SNK-860, ADN-138, AS-3201, zenarestat, sorbinil, methosorbinil, imirestat and minalrestat (WAY-121509), benazepril, benazeprilat, captopril, delapril, fentiapril, fosinopril, imidopril, libenzapril, moexipril, pentopril, perindopril, pivopril, quinapril, quinaprilat, ramipril, spirapril, spiraprilat, trandolapril, zofenopril, ceronapril, enalapril, indolapril, lisinopril, alacepril, cilazapril, losartan, irbesartan, valsartan and candesartan.

31. (New) A pharmaceutical combination in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and  
lisinopril.

32. (New) A pharmaceutical combination in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and  
candesartan.

33. (New) A pharmaceutical combination in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
and  
(S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid or 3-{4-[2-(4-*tert*-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid.

34. (New) A pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
lisinopril; and  
a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

35. (New) A pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
candesartan; and  
a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

36. (New) A pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl]  
(3R,5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
(S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid, or 3-{4-  
[2-(4-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino)phenyl]ethoxy}phenyl)-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid; and  
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

37. (New) A method for the treatment of complications of diabetes in a warm blooded  
animal in need thereof comprising administering to said animal a treatment-effective amount  
of a pharmaceutical combination comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino] pyrimidin-5-  
yl](3R, 5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;  
and  
candesartan.

38. (New) A method for the treatment of complications of diabetes in a warm  
blooded animal in need thereof comprising administering to said animal a treatment-effective  
amount of a pharmaceutical combination comprising:

(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino] pyrimidin-5-yl](3R, 5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and lisinopril.

39. (New) A method for the treatment of complications of diabetes in a warm blooded animal in need thereof comprising administering to said animal a treatment-effective amount of a pharmaceutical combination comprising:

(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino] pyrimidin-5-yl](3R, 5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and (S)-2-ethoxy-3-[4-(2-{4-methanesulfonyloxyphenyl}ethoxy)phenyl]propanoic acid or 3-{4-[2-(4-tert-butoxycarbonylaminophenyl)ethoxy]phenyl}-(S)-2-ethoxy propanoic acid.

40. (New) A pharmaceutical combination in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R, 5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and an insulin sensitising agent.

41. (New) A pharmaceutical composition in unit dosage form comprising:  
(E)-7-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]pyrimidin-5-yl](3R, 5S)-3,5-dihydroxyhept-6-enoic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; an insulin sensitising agent; and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.